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International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

Security Council
Seventieth year

Identical letters dated 15 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of remarks made on 12 June 2015 by a spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in relation to the groundless criticism by the United States of the legitimate right of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the peaceful use of outer space, including for artificial satellite launches (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 49, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ja** Song Nam
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 15 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Remarks made on 12 June 2015 by a spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in relation to the groundless criticism by the United States of the legitimate right of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to launch artificial satellites for peaceful purposes

Pyongyang, 12 June — A spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea gave the following answer to the question from the Korean Central News Agency with regard to the accusation by the United States against the satellite launch for peaceful purposes by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea:

The Department of State of the United States had its senior adviser on strategy and communications cry out for international pressure on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, terming its satellite launch a violation of the Security Council "resolutions" that ban all launches using ballistic technology.

The accusation by the United States against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea over its just and legitimate satellite launch under the pretext of violating those "resolutions" is a wanton infringement of and challenge to its sovereignty.

The satellite launch for peaceful purposes by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is inviolable, as it is an exercise of the legitimate independent right of a sovereign State publicly recognized by international law, which is above Security Council resolutions.

Among States Members of the United Nations, the United States is the only country that has taken the lead in taking issue with the legitimate satellite launch by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, serving as another example clearly proving the extremely hostile policy of the United States towards the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The United States asserts that all its satellite launches are legitimate, while those of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are illegal. This robber-like insistence is the height of double standards by the United States and a revelation of ill-intentioned inveterate repugnance towards the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The status of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as a satellite manufacturer and launcher can never change, no matter how desperately the hostile forces negate it, and its space development is not something that can be given up because of someone's opposition.

It is the firm resolution and will of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to push back the frontiers of the latest science and technology in the field of space development, too, to protect the self-esteem and dignity of the nation.

The United States and other hostile forces will have no alternative but to watch the satellites of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea soaring into outer space one after another until they come to realize how illegal and foolish their attempt is to check the legitimate satellite launches by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by dint of the above-mentioned Security Council "resolutions".